



*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]*

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132

--8. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said step a. further comprises determining a surface temperature of the continuous-cast slab, said step c. comprises using a surface temperature of the continuous-cast slab determined in said step a. as an input to the slab monitoring system, and said step c. further comprises automatically controlling the material flow via the slab monitoring system based on the amount of heat and the temperature profile determined in said step b. and the surface temperature of the continuous-cast slab.--

-5-